

Dr. Burgess Special Address January 20, 2018 Government Shutdown

Hello, this is your Congressman Michael Burgess.

I wanted to take a moment to discuss the current appropriations lapse at the level of the federal government, also known as the government shutdown. Last night, Senate Democrats blocked a continuing resolution that would have funded the federal government. I am disappointed – and I am concerned – by this decision to withhold funding for our Armed Forces and for the essential government services upon which Americans in North Texas and around the country rely.

Not only is the shutdown unnecessary, but it is endangering our national security. During this lapse in funding, my first priority is to ensure our men and women in uniform have the resources they need. Until this shutdown ends, more than 2 million members of our military will not be paid for their work, but their work continues nonetheless. We can – and we must – do better for our military.

Last night, Senate Democrats also chose to vote against funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). More than 9 million children around the country – including 400,000 in Texas – are counting on Congress to fund this important program. Every vote against the continuing resolution is a vote against vulnerable children who need access to health care.

Although the government is closed, my work representing North Texans will not stop. During this duration of this funding lapse, my office will remain open during normal business hours to provide constituent services for the 26th District. For case work or other inquiries, please contact my office at (202) 225-7772 or online at burgess.house.gov.

As always, I appreciate your comments and your concerns on this issue or any other issue. May God bless you and your family, and as the song says, God bless you Texas.